

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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LAUSTEVEION JOHNSON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DANA EVERAGE, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:20-cv-01935-GMN-NJK

ORDER

On November 5, 2020, this Court issued an order directing Plaintiffs Laustevion Johnson ("Johnson"), Christopher Smith ("Smith"), and Warith Deen Abdullah ("Abdullah") to each file a fully complete applications to proceed *in forma pauperis* or pay the full filing fee of \$400 on or before January 4, 2021. (ECF No. 3 at 3). The January 4, 2021 deadline has now expired and Plaintiffs Johnson, Smith, and Abdullah have not each filed an application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, paid the full \$400 filing fee, or otherwise responded to the Court's order.

District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and "[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal" of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (affirming dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (affirming dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (affirming dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address); *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (affirming

1 dismissal for failure to comply with court order); *Henderson v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421,
2 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (affirming dismissal for lack of prosecution and failure to comply with
3 local rules).

4 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey
5 a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors:
6 (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to
7 manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring
8 disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.
9 See *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at
10 130; *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

11 Here, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in expeditiously
12 resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket, weigh in favor of
13 dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs in favor of
14 dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of unreasonable delay
15 in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See *Anderson v. Air*
16 *West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor—public policy favoring
17 disposition of cases on their merits—is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor of
18 dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey
19 the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives"
20 requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779
21 F.2d at 1424.

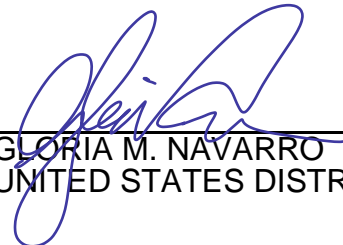
22 The Court's order requiring Plaintiffs to each file a fully complete application to
23 proceed *in forma pauperis* or pay the full \$400 filing fee on or before January 4, 2020
24 expressly stated: "IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, if Johnson, Smith, or Abdullah do not
25 each file their own separate and fully complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis*
26 with all three documents or pay the full \$400 filing fee for a civil action on or before January
27 4, 2021, this case will be subject to dismissal without prejudice as to that Plaintiff in non-
28 compliance for that Plaintiff to file a new case with the Court, under a new case number,

1 when he has all three documents needed to file a complete application to proceed *in*
2 *forma pauperis* or pays the full \$400 filing fee.” (ECF No. 3 at 3). Thus, Plaintiffs Johnson,
3 Smith, and Abdullah had adequate warning that dismissal would result from their non-
4 compliance with the Court’s order to each file an application to proceed *in forma pauperis*
5 or pay the full \$400 filing fee on or before January 4, 2021.

6 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that this action is dismissed without prejudice
7 based on Plaintiffs’ failure to file an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* or pay the
8 full \$400 filing fee in compliance with this Court’s order dated November 5, 2020.

9 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of Court shall enter judgment
10 accordingly and close this case. No additional documents will be filed in this closed case.

11 DATED: January 14, 2021

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14 GLORIA M. NAVARRO
15 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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